

**JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSION**



**OFFICE OF COUNTY ATTORNEY**

EDWIN A. STRICKLAND  
County Attorney  
CHARLES B. WAGNER  
JEFFREY M. BEWELL  
Assistant County Attorneys  
214 Courthouse  
Birmingham, Alabama 35203-0008  
Telephone (205) 328-6868  
FAX (205) 328-6840

October 26, 1993

Section 5 Submission  
No. 93-4177

**U. S. Department of Justice  
Civil Rights Division  
Voting Section  
P. O. Box 66128  
Washington, D.C. 20035-6128**

**Re: Submission under Section 5 - Voting Rights Act  
Jefferson County, Alabama**

Greetings:

This will constitute a submission under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act regarding the alteration of the Jefferson County Commission single-member district boundary lines, following the 1990 United States Census.

In accordance with PART 51 - PROCEDURES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF SECTION 5 OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965 AS AMENDED - SUBPART C:

**1. SOURCE OF INFORMATION**

A. The Jefferson County Commission consists of five County Commissioners elected from single-member districts in the County. This structure results from a CONSENT DECREE of August 17, 1983, and AMENDED CONSENT DECREE of August 31, 1985, in the case of Taylor, et al. v. Jefferson County, et al., CA 84-C-1730-S. The County Commission structure established pursuant to Taylor, above, received preclearance on a Section 5 submission by letter of January 13, 1986 (copy attached).

B. A second submission was made under Section 5 resulting from the passage by the Legislature of Alabama, of Act No. 89-841, which established residency requirements for Jefferson County Commissioners. The Act required that such Commissioners shall have been citizens and residents of the County Commission District they represent one year next before their election and

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shall reside in their respective districts during their terms of office. This submission received preclearance by the Justice Department by letter of July 28, 1989 (copy attached).

2. **STATISTICS**

See attached Exhibits.

3. **STATEMENT OF THE CHANGE**

The present five-member single-district county commission was established by Consent Decree of August 17, 1985, based on the 1980 U. S. Census. The 1990 U. S. Census reflects that District No. 1 has lost 15.52% population; District No. 2 has lost 6.2% population; District No. 3 has gained 1.13% population; District No. 4 has gained 13.32% population and District No. 5 has gained 7.27% population. The ideal district population as per the 1990 census is 130,305. The change in district boundaries will bring each district close to the ideal district population, without significantly changing the ratio of black and white population within the districts.

4. **PERSON MAKING SUBMISSION**

Edwin A. Strickland  
Jefferson County Attorney  
214 Jefferson County Courthouse  
716 North 21st Street  
Birmingham, AL 35263  
Phone: (205) 325-5688

5. **NAME OF SUBMITTING AUTHORITY AND LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR THE ACTION.**

Act No. 92-01, Legislature of Alabama (copy attached) authorizes the County Commission to alter Commission single-member district boundaries following the release of any federal decennial census. This Act received preclearance following a Section 5 submission by letter of March 6, 1992 (copy attached).

The Jefferson County Commission, made the subject changes in the Commission district boundaries by resolution adopted by the County Commission on October 19, 1993 (copy attached).

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6. DATE OF CHANGE

The change in the Commission district boundaries will commence with the party primary elections for the Jefferson County Commission in 1994 and the general election of November, 1994.

7. REASONS FOR CHANGE

See item 3 above.

8. ANTICIPATED EFFECT OF THE CHANGE

The anticipated effect of the change is to nearly equalize the total population residing within the five Commission Districts without significantly altering the racial ratios.

9. PAST OR PENDING LITIGATION

There is no pending litigation concerning the structure of the County Commission or the boundary lines of the respective Commission districts.

10. ADDITIONAL EXHIBITS -- DISTRICT BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS

A. District Boundary Description -- Written Census Features.

B. District Boundary Description -- Map By Census Features.

C. District Boundary Description -- Written Census Geography.

D. District Boundary Description -- Map By Streets.

Sincerely,



Edwin A. Strickland  
County Attorney

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Enclosures

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